

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1 through 5 and 7 through 14 remain in this application. Claim 7 has been amended.

Claims 7 and 8 are objected to for being dependent on a canceled claim. As the Examiner accurately surmised, Applicants intended to have claim 7 depend from independent claim 1 and, thus, claim 7 is hereby amended accordingly. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to claims 7 and 8 are respectfully requested.

Claims 1 through 5, 9 and 12 through 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,213,078 to Ferrell, et al. ("Ferrell, et al. patent"). Claims 1 through 5 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,633,152 to Sharrah, et al. patent ("Sharrah, et al. patent"). Claims 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the Sharrah, et al. patent in view of the Ferrell, et al. patent. Claims 10 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the Ferrell, et al. patent in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,728,157 to David, Jr. ("David, Jr., patent").

Claims 1 and 9 provide, *inter alia*, one or more barbed wing members supporting a pair of barbs extending perpendicularly from the barbed wing member(s). In contrast, the Farrell, et al. patent describes a backup spring 30-3 having a pair of protrusions extending at a slight angle (see FIG. 12), not perpendicularly as required by claims 1 and 9. Also, the Sharrah, et al. patent describes a latch member 80 having a slanted portion (alleged to be a barbed wing member) at

the top of the latch member and a small protrusion to the left of the slanted portion (alleged to be a barb), but the Sharrah, et al. patent does not describe a pair of barbs, let alone a pair of barbs extending perpendicularly, as required by claims 1 and 9. The David, Jr., patent does not describe any type of barbed wing member or pair of barbs. Therefore, the Ferrell, et al. patent, the Sharrah, et al. patent, and the David, Jr. patent do not describe or suggest a pair of barbs extending perpendicularly from one or more barbed wing members, as required by claims 1 and 9. Claims 1 and 9 distinguish patentably from the Ferrell, et al. patent, the Sharrah, et al. patent, the David, Jr., patent, and any combination of these patents.

Claims 2 through 5, 7, 8 and 10 through 14 depend from and include all limitations of independent claims 1 and 9. Therefore, claims 2 through 5, 7, 8 and 10 through 14 distinguish patentably from the Ferrell, et al. patent, the Sharrah, et al. patent, the David, Jr., patent, and any combination of these patents for the reasons stated above for claims 1 and 9.

In view of the above, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of claims 1 through 5 and 7 through 14 are respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

No amendment made was related to the statutory requirements of patentability unless expressly stated herein. Also, no amendment made was for the purpose of narrowing the scope of any claim, unless Applicants have argued herein that such amendment was made to distinguish over a particular reference or combination of references.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to deduct any additional fees arising as a result of this response, including any fees for Extensions of Time, or any other communication from or to credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 50-2117.

It is submitted that the claims clearly define the invention, are supported by the specification and drawings, and are in a condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. Should the Examiner have any questions or concerns that may expedite prosecution of the present application, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,
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